



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

701
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/535,857	03/27/2000	Danielle Kathryn Dittrich	0036.0061	3875
24033	7590	10/21/2004		
			EXAMINER	
			GRANT II, JEROME	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2626	

DATE MAILED: 10/21/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/535,857	Applicant(s) DANIELLE DITTRICH
	Examiner Jerome Grant II	Art Unit 2626
<i>-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --</i>		
Period for Reply		
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). - Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). 		
Status		
1) <input type="checkbox"/> Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.		
2a) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This action is FINAL. 2b) <input type="checkbox"/> This action is non-final.		
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.		
Disposition of Claims		
4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) <u>1-39</u> is/are pending in the application.		
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.		
5) <input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.		
6) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) <u>1,2,6,13,14,18,25,26,30,37 and 38</u> is/are rejected.		
7) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) <u>3-5,7-12,15-17,19-24,27-29,31-36 and 39</u> is/are objected to.		
8) <input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.		
Application Papers		
9) <input type="checkbox"/> The specification is objected to by the Examiner.		
10) <input type="checkbox"/> The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) <input type="checkbox"/> accepted or b) <input type="checkbox"/> objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).		
11) <input type="checkbox"/> The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) <input type="checkbox"/> approved b) <input type="checkbox"/> disapproved by the Examiner. If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.		
12) <input type="checkbox"/> The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.		
Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120		
13) <input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) <input type="checkbox"/> All b) <input type="checkbox"/> Some * c) <input type="checkbox"/> None of: 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____. 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.		
14) <input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application). a) <input type="checkbox"/> The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.		
15) <input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.		
BERNIE GRANT PATENT EXAMINER		
Attachment(s)		
1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)		
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)		
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.		
4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.		
5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)		
6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____		

1.

Informality

At page 11 of 16, in the amendment dated June 14, 2004, there still remains 2 numbered "claim 38" and one current claim 39. Correction is required.

2.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2, 6, 13, 14, 19, 25, 26, 30, 37, and 38(first and second occurrence claims) rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Seto.

With respect to claim 1, Seto teaches a method for generating a table RAM for enhancing the print quality of input raster pel data, comprising:

generating an output value (system of figure 5 for generating density images) for different patterns (minimum to max density values), wherein each output value indicates a sub-pulse width power to charge to a sub-pel region (partial region of M-Dot) within a

pel M-Dot and position information $m + (1-14)$ or a numerical density value of max F0 indicating the justification of the sub-pel region within the pel; and forming a LUT (RAM 35) from the generated output values that enhance print quality.

With respect to claims 2, 14 and 26, see the charged region shown by figure 14B.

With respect to claims 6, 18 and 30, the sub-pulse width power is generated by weights (1P and 2P clock control phases) indicating the affect of a subject black pel (or any other pel $m + (1-14)$ DOT) on surrounding pels.

With respect to claim 13, Seto teaches a system (shown by figure 5) for generating a table RAM for enhancing the print quality of input raster pel data, comprising:

With respect to claim 14, Seto teaches a processor 4, shown in figure 25, for generating an output value (density images) for different patterns (minimum to max density values), wherein each output value indicates a sub-pulse width power to charge to a sub-pel region (partial region of M-Dot) within a pel M-Dot and position information $m + (1-14)$ or a numerical density value of max F0 indicating the justification of the sub-pel region within the pel; and forming a LUT (RAM 35) from the generated output values that enhance print quality.

With respect to claim 25, Seto teaches an article of manufacture, shown by figures 5 or 25, for generating a table (RAM 35) for enhancing a quality of pel data, the article of manufacture (figures 5 or 25) having a computer program having a host computer 1000 shown by figure 2 for providing instructions to the CPU 38 of figure 5 for performing processing operations. Seto teaches generating an output value (density images) for different patterns (minimum to max density values), wherein each output value indicates a sub-pulse width power to charge to a sub-pel region (partial region of M-Dot) within a pel M-Dot and position information $m + (1-14)$ or a numerical density value of max F0 indicating the justification of the sub-pel region within the pel; and forming a LUT (RAM 35) from the generated output values that enhance print quality.

With respect to claim 37, Seto teaches a computer readable transmission medium (see Col. 13, lines 44-49 and RAM 35) which includes a LUT, an output value (0 or 1) for different patterns of pel data; a sub-pulse width power (1159 according to figure 33) to charge a sub-region within a pel; and position information ($m+(1-14)$ Dot shown by figure 14b, indicating a region within a pel.

With respect to claim 38, Seto teaches a LUT RAM 35 and output values depending on a surrounding pel (see figure 14B). Furthermore, Seto teaches each value is a function of the pulse width according to col. 14, lines 14-24.

3.

Claims Objected

Claims 3-5, 7-12, 15 - 17, 19-24, 27- 29, 31-36 and 39 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

4 THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

5.

Examiner's Remarks

With respect to applicant's remarks found in the middle of page 12, the applicant has still two claims under claim 38. Correction was required in the last office action.

In the second full paragraph at page 13, applicant states that the examiner did not cite any section of Seto directed toward generating an output value for different patterns of pel data. In response thereto, the system of figure 5, as indicated, in the rejection to claim 13, addresses this limitation. Moreover, the system of figure 5 generated a table RAM 35 as for enhancing the quality of the pel data where data is output as a minimum or maximum density value. The max and min density values are generated to form a different pel pattern.

With respect to the argument at the fourth full para. Applicant argues that the discussion in Seto is not concerned with printed M-Dots disclose the claim requirement that each output value indicates a sub-pulse width power to charge a sub-pel region within a pel. The examiner traverses the argument as a mischaracterization of the examiner's office action. Applicant recites col. 7, lines 16-33 and col. 15, lines 11-28 but the examiner did not use this as a basis for the rejection. Applicant has not shown why the portions of the Seto references cited by the examiner do not anticipated the claims.

At the top of page 40, applicant objects to "max FO" . Col. 3, line 55 refers to max FFLH. However, this is believed to be in error since the drawing provides a maximum pixel density F0. Figure 17A shows maximum pixel density as FO.

Regarding applicant's comment found at the fourth paragraph of page 14, it is not clear what claims are being argued. The dependent claims that have been rejected are clearly indicated. The claims in numbered paragraph 3 of the Office Action mailed March 3, 2004 contains allowable subject matter as indicated.

In the first full paragraph of page 15, claims 2, 3, 6, 14, 15, 19, 26, 27, 30, 37 and 38 are alleged to be allowed. However, these claims are rejected for the reasons presented in the office action of March 12, 2004

With respect to the argument of claims 3, 15 and 27, at page 15, examiner concurs with applicant.

With respect to the argument presented at the bottom of page 15 and bridging page 16, applicant argues that Seto does not teach or the examiner did not recite "references clock control phases" The examiner's response to this argument is that the limitation is not positively recited in claims 6, 18 and 30.

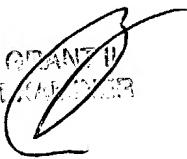
In the first full paragraph of page 16 of the remarks, the examiner is alleged not to have recited in Seto the adjusting of a base sub-pulse width power by wieights inicated the affect of the black pel. The base subwidth power is the clock signal with weights P and 2P, see col. 20, lines 34-40.

In the last paragraph of the argument, it is not clear what the additional required is not alleged to by shown by Seto.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jerome Grant II whose telephone number is 703-305-4391. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. from 9:00 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly A. Williams, can be reached on (703) 305-4863. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9314.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.


JEROME M. GRANT II
PRIMARY EXAMINER

J. Grant II